

locality mentioned by Mr. Clark, I may add Sandwich and Weymouth; and Mr. Barlee has also found it on the west coasts of Scotland and Ireland. It is however a very rare and well-marked shell.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. GWYN JEFFREYS.

Norton near Swansea, Dec. 8, 1850.

IV.—*Descriptions of some new species of Exotic Hymenoptera in the British Museum and other Collections.* By FREDERICK SMITH, Assistant in the Zoological Department of the British Museum.

Genus TRIGONALYS, Westw.

T. bipustulata, n. sp.

Male (length 7 lines) black: head as wide as the thorax, quadrate, smooth and shining, covered with a thin short black pubescence, the clypeus emarginate in front; antennæ setaceous, 20-jointed, the apical eight joints gradually attenuated to a point; thorax closely and deeply punctured, the punctures confluent; the metathorax has a deep longitudinal channel in the centre, and its apex is clothed with pale pubescence; the tibiæ and tarsi very dark ferruginous, the legs are entirely clothed with short fuscous pubescence; wings hyaline, the anterior margin of the superior wings has a dark fuscous longitudinal cloud, covering the externo- and interno-medial, the first discoidal, the marginal, and the first, second and third submarginal cells; the posterior wings are also clouded at their anterior margin which gradually shades off towards that of the posterior; abdomen very closely punctured—the basal segment above has two pale yellow lateral spots, between which is a deep broad groove from the base to the apex; beneath, the basal segment is pale yellow, except a small portion at its base.

Hab. Brazil.

This species is in the collection of W. W. Saunders, Esq., and is the largest which I have yet seen of this rare genus.

Note.—The neuration of the wings in this species differs considerably from that of the type of the genus, *T. melanoleuca*, the second submarginal cell is more elongate, and the third instead of being quadrate is oblong.

T. maculata, n. sp.

Male (length $4\frac{1}{2}$ lines) black: the head quadrate, closely and rather deeply punctured, the clypeus transverse, emarginate in the centre of its anterior margin; it is yellow and has a black

stripe equal to one-third of its width down the centre; the orbit of the eyes yellow, interrupted at their vertex; two minute yellow spots in front of the anterior stemma, and two very minute ones placed obliquely beyond them; the posterior pair of stemmata are placed in a line with the vertex of the eyes; a yellow line traverses the hinder margin of the vertex curving inwards at a central interruption; the mandibles are quadrate, yellow, and tridentate, the apical tooth largest; the teeth and the extreme base ferruginous; the antennæ 19-jointed, the first joint at its base and apex and the seven following joints entirely ferruginous; thorax roughly punctured; a line in front of the tegulæ, the tubercles, a minute spot beneath the wings, two in front of the prothorax, two on each side of the scutellum and one on each side of the postscutellum yellow; the tegulæ testaceous, the nervures of the wings dark piceous; the anterior margin has a fuscous cloud extending from the base to the apex, where it is broadest; the legs ferruginous, their trochanters yellow, the intermediate pair have a stain beneath; the anterior tibiæ in front, and the intermediate and posterior pairs at their base yellow; all the femora beneath are darkest towards their base, the claws black; abdomen subpetiolate, incurved at the apex, the second segment beneath has an obtuse tooth on its apical margin. Above, the margins of the first, second and fourth segments, and the whole of the fifth and sixth yellow; the two latter have an undefined black line down their centre; beneath, the first, second and third segments have their apical margins yellow.

Hab. Moreton Bay, New South Wales.

I have only seen the single specimen in the British Museum; Mr. Westwood informed me he had also one.

Genus MICROPTERYX, St. Farg.

Pompilus, Fab.

M. bicolor, n. sp.

Female (length 10 lines) black: head shining, very minutely punctured, the mandibles slightly ferruginous on their outer margin; the prothorax and a smooth triangular space on the mesothorax ferruginous, as is also the scutellum, which is smooth, shining, and very finely punctured; the metathorax ferruginous and rugose; wings black, the length of the thorax; legs and abdomen also black, the latter clothed with short black pubescence.

This species resembles the *brevipennis* of Fabricius, but is distinguished by its broader head, and by having the metathorax entirely rugose, whereas in *brevipennis* it is finely crenulated towards the base; and the abdomen is spotless.

Hab. Port Natal.

In the cabinet of the British Museum, and also in that of W. W. Saunders, Esq.

M. fasciata, n. sp.

Female (length 6 lines) black: head smooth and shining; the thorax entirely red; anterior wings dark fuscous, the posterior pair subhyaline; a white fascia on the anterior pair, crossing from the first submarginal cell and being of the same width. On the apical margin of the first and third segments of the abdomen is a broad golden band, which is deeply emarginate in the centre; a marginal band on the fifth, and the sixth segment entirely clothed with golden pile; beneath clothed with short silvery pubescence.

Note.—The second segment of the abdomen has an impressed line down the centre, and its margin is notched to the depth of half its width.

Although after a careful examination I consider this peculiar conformation to be natural, and not an accidental deformity; still, in the absence of other specimens, I place it in a note, which may serve to call particular attention to such a remarkable formation.

I have only seen the single specimen in the British Museum.

Genus *LARRAXENA*, n. gen.

Head a little wider than the thorax, depressed in front, the anterior stemma situated in a frontal depression, the posterior pair obsolete; eyes lateral, slightly approximating at their vertex; antennæ filiform, the basal joint very much incrassated, inserted at the base of the clypeus which is transverse, the mandibles arcuate; thorax ovate, the metathorax elongate, truncate posteriorly; the anterior wings with one marginal cell, appendiculated, and three submarginal cells; the second triangular and petiolated, receiving the two recurrent nervures; the first submarginal cell equal to the second and third united, the third narrow and oblique, the legs moderate in length, all the tibiæ and tarsi strongly spinose, the tarsi longer than the tibiæ; abdomen elongate-ovate.

L. princeps.

Female (length 8 lines) black: the head deeply and closely punctured, the face and cheeks covered with a silvery pubescence, the mandibles ferruginous, black at their base and apex; the pro- and meso-thorax shining and closely punctured; the metathorax opaque, finely granulated; down the centre a slight depression, which has a central carina reaching nearly to the apex; wings dark fuscous, their tegulæ piccous, the tarsal claws ferruginous,

the thorax above and on the sides covered with a fine silvery pile, most sparing on its disc; abdomen red, smooth and shining; a few long pale hairs on the apical segment.

Hab. Brazil.

Of this species I have only seen the two specimens in the British Museum.

Genus *TRIGONOPSIS*, Perty.

T. affinis, n. sp.

Female (length $7\frac{1}{2}$ lines) black: head smooth and shining, the clypeus reddish yellow, armed with five teeth, the two lateral ones much stouter than the other three; the mandibles and two basal joints of the antennæ reddish yellow, the former black at their tips; the palpi yellow, the basal margin of the neck and also that of the metathorax fringed with golden pubescence, which is also scattered on its sides; there is also a patch of the same beneath the wings and on the hinder margin of the tubercles; the metathorax above has a broad elongate furrow, is transversely striated, and rugose at the sides and apex; the tegulæ and nervures of the wings are pale ferruginous; a dark cloud crosses the wing from the marginal cell to the apex of the third discoidal cell, and also tips the posterior wings; a second cloud traverses the transverse portion of the externo-medial nervure; the apical half of the anterior femora, the tibiæ and tarsi, and also the intermediate tibiæ, ferruginous; abdomen ferruginous, its petiole black.

Hab. Brazil.

This species is from the collections of Messrs. Wallace and Bates, and was captured at Parà. In my own, and also in the collection of W. W. Saunders, Esq.

T. violaceus, n. sp.

Male (length $7\frac{1}{2}$ lines): head violet, smooth and shining, the clypeus produced in front; the mandibles dark ferruginous; the deep lateral depressions on the face clothed with silvery pile; antennæ black; thorax black, the neck, pro- and meso-thorax, the scutellum, and a space on each side of the deep longitudinal channel of the metathorax very smooth and shining; the channel transversely sulcate, the sides and apex of the metathorax rugose; at its base and also under the wings a patch of silvery pile; the legs deep violet, the abdomen bright violet; the wings marked as in the preceding species, but rather darker.

Hab. Brazil.

Captured also by Messrs. Wallace and Bates. One specimen in the British Museum.

Genus CHLORION, Latr.

Chlorion splendidum, Fab. Syst. Piez. 218. 5.

Pronæus Campbellii, Saund. Trans. Ent. Soc. vol. iii. 58. pl. 5. f. 1.

C. splendidum.

Male (length 8 lines) : head ferruginous, the tips of the mandibles, the four apical joints of the antennæ, and a patch above their insertion enclosing the stemmata, black ; thorax black ; the collar, mesothorax, scutellum, tegulæ, a spot under the wings, the breast and legs ferruginous ; a longitudinal patch, and small spot beyond, situated outside the enclosed portion of the metathorax, ferruginous ; the metathorax transversely striated, the wings yellow, the nervures pale ferruginous, their apex having a dark cloud ; abdomen dark purple-violet.

Hab. India.

This sex was not previously known ; it is from the collection of Capt. Boys. In the cabinet of W. W. Saunders, Esq., and my own.

Genus GORYTES, Latr.

G. scutellaris, n. sp.

Female (length $4\frac{1}{4}$ lines) black ; covered with a fine golden changeable pile, in some lights having a silvery hue ; it clothes the whole insect except the disc of the thorax and abdomen ; the head smooth and shining ; the prothorax has two approximating parallel lines running from the centre of the collar to the disc ; the scutellum and a patch before, blood-red ; the metathorax has a triangular enclosed space at its base which has eight longitudinal carinæ ; the base is coarsely rugose and clothed with a dense silvery pile ; the wings hyaline, dark fuscous at their base, and crossed by a fascia of the same colour as broad as the first and second submarginal cells ; the basal, fourth and fifth segments of the abdomen are covered with a fine silvery pile ; the second segment has an ovate cream-coloured macula situated laterally at its apical margin ; the margins of the third, fourth and fifth segments have a narrow cream-coloured fascia.

The male is rather smaller and has no red patch before the scutellum ; in other respects it exactly corresponds with the female.

Hab. Brazil.

This very beautiful species was captured by Messrs. Wallace and Bates, and is I believe unique in my collection.

Genus SERICOPHORUS, Shuck.

S. chalybeus, n. sp.

Female (length 5 lines) : head of a bluish green ; the clypeus

armed on its anterior margin laterally with three teeth, the margin waved; the first and second joint of the antennæ black, the remaining joints red; the face and cheeks clothed with silvery pile; thorax metallic blue; the metathorax has in the centre a deep incisure, widening to the base; the apex roughly transversely strigose; wings hyaline; legs red, their coxæ, trochanters, and base of the femora of a metallic blue, the pulvilli black; abdomen chalybeous, covered with a delicate silvery pile, most dense at the lateral margins of the segments.

Hab. New Holland.

This extremely beautiful species is unique in the collection of the British Museum.

Note.—The insects belonging to this genus have very much the appearance of those of the genus *Oxybelus*; they are however very distinct, as also from those belonging to the genus *Palarus*; towards the latter they closely approach in the neururation of the wings. I am not aware that Mr. Shuckard has published the characters of the genus; I therefore subjoin its prominent characters:—

Head transverse, as wide as the thorax; eyes oval, the stemmata placed in a triangle on the vertex, the posterior pair a little before the hinder margin of the eyes; antennæ short, gradually increasing in thickness towards the apex, inserted at the base of the clypeus, but not approximate; thorax ovate, truncated posteriorly, the collar and scutellum transverse; the metathorax having a cruciform incisure, the transverse one curving upwards; the superior wings with one marginal cell, and three submarginal; the second submarginal triangular, the third elongate transversely, and of equal width throughout; the first and second submarginal cells each receiving a recurrent nervure near their apex; the legs of moderate length, and stout; the intermediate and posterior tibiæ strongly spinose; the claws have within their fork a large pulvillus; abdomen ovato-conic, the apical segment acute.

V.—*A few remarks on the Menispermaceæ.*

By JOHN MIERS, Esq., F.R.S., F.L.S.

It is now upwards of three years since I completed, as far as the materials at my command allowed me, an investigation of the very interesting and little understood order of the *Menispermaceæ*. This I had arranged in the form of a monograph of some considerable extent, illustrated by numerous drawings of species and analytical details of each genus; but it has not yet been